

All Regional Engineers

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Special Provision for Self-Consolidating Concrete for Precast
Products

August 5, 2005

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research. It has been revised to provide greater detail to the Contractor/Precast Producer and reflects experience gained by BMPR in use of this type of mix design. This special provision should be inserted in all contracts using precast concrete products.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the November 18, 2005 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include a copy in the contract.

This special provision will be available on the transfer directory August 5, 2005.

80132m

SELF-CONSOLIDATING CONCRETE FOR PRECAST PRODUCTS (BDE)

Effective: July 1, 2004

Revised: November 1, 2005

Definition. Self-consolidating concrete is a flowable mixture that does not require mechanical vibration for consolidation.

Usage. Self-consolidating concrete may be used for precast concrete products.

Materials. Materials shall be according to the following.

- (a) Self-Consolidating Admixtures. The self-consolidating admixture system shall consist of either a high range water-reducing admixture only or a high range water-reducing admixture combined with a separate viscosity modifying admixture. The one or two component admixture system shall be capable of producing a concrete that can flow around reinforcement and consolidate under its own weight without additional effort and without segregation.

The high range water-reducing admixture shall comply with the requirements of AASHTO M 194, Type F.

The viscosity modifying admixture will be evaluated according to the test methods and mix design proportions referenced in AASHTO M 194, except the following physical requirements shall be met:

- (1) For initial and final set times, the allowable deviation of the test concrete from the reference concrete shall not be more than 1.0 hour earlier or 1.5 hours later.
 - (2) For compressive and flexural strengths, the test concrete shall be a minimum of 90 percent of the reference concrete at 3, 7 and 28 days.
 - (3) The length change of the test concrete shall be a maximum 135 percent of the reference concrete. However, if the length change of the reference concrete is less than 0.030 percent, the length change of the test concrete shall be a maximum 0.010 percentage units greater than the reference concrete.
 - (4) The relative durability factor of the test concrete shall be a minimum 80 percent.
- (b) Fine Aggregate. A fine aggregate used alone in the mix design shall not have an expansion greater than 0.30 percent per ASTM C 1260. For a blend of two or more fine aggregates, the resulting blend shall not have an expansion greater than 0.30 percent.

The aggregate blend expansion will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Aggregate Blend Expansion} = (a/100 \times A) + (b/100 \times B) + (c/100 \times C) + \dots \text{etc.}$$

Where: a, b, c, ... = percent of aggregate blend
A, B, C, ... = aggregate expansion according to ASTM C 1260

Mix Design Criteria. The mix design criteria shall be as follows:

- (a) The minimum cement factor shall be according to Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications or as specified. The maximum cement factor shall be 418 kg/cu m (7.05 cwt/cu yd).
- (b) The maximum allowable water/cement ratio shall be according to Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications or 0.44, whichever is lower.
- (c) The slump requirements of Article 1020.04 of the Standard Specifications shall not apply.
- (d) The coarse aggregate gradations shall be CA 11, CA 13, CA 14, CA 16, or a blend of these gradations. CA 11 shall not be used when the Engineer approves a horizontal flow distance greater than 9 m (30 ft). The fine aggregate proportion shall be a maximum 50 percent by mass (weight) of the total aggregate used.
- (e) The slump flow range shall be ± 50 mm (± 2 in.) of the Contractor target value, and within the overall Department range of 510 mm (20 in.) minimum to 710 mm (28 in.) maximum.
- (f) The visual stability index shall be a maximum of 1.
- (g) The J-ring value shall be a maximum of 100 mm (4 in.). The Contractor may specify a lower maximum in the mix design.
- (h) The L-box blocking ratio shall be a minimum of 60 percent. The Contractor may specify a higher minimum in the mix design.
- (i) The column segregation index shall be a maximum 15 percent.
- (j) The hardened visual stability index shall be a maximum of 1.

Mix Design Approval. The Contractor shall obtain mix design approval according to the Department's Policy Memorandum "Quality Control/Quality Assurance Program for Precast Concrete Products".